OLR Bill Analysis sSB 224

AN ACT CONCERNING RECOMMENDATIONS OF THE SCHOOL NURSE ADVISORY COUNCIL.

SUMMARY:

This bill requires each local or regional board of education to maintain a staffing ratio in its school district of at least one school nurse or nurse practitioner for every 750 students. It also allows a school nurse or nurse practitioner to provide services to more than one board as long as the minimum staffing ratio is met. By law, boards of education must appoint at least one school nurse or nurse practitioner for their educational district.

The bill also requires each school nurse or nurse practitioner to complete the school nurse orientation program offered by the State Department of Education and the Association of School Nurses of Connecticut within one year after being hired. It appears that this requirement could only be implemented for newly hired nurses.

Under the bill, nurses and nurse practitioners must also meet the educational requirements specified in regulations adopted by the State Board of Education, in consultation with the Department of Public Health. Existing law already requires them to be qualified under regulations.

EFFECTIVE DATE: July 1, 2014

COMMITTEE ACTION

Public Health Committee

Joint Favorable Substitute Reference of Change Yea 26 Nay 0 (03/11/2014)

Education Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 22 Nay 10 (03/24/2014)